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Mill End, Ipswich, 1635-1640.

HISTORIC GROUND : MILL STREET
LOCATED : WHY SO CALLED : MILL
STREET PEOPLED : DENNISON'S LOT
BELCHER-SALTONSTALL DEED
SALTONSTALL AND WHIPPLE
HOUSES : REMARKS AND REMARKS

Martin Van Buren Perley

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[PERLEY, MARTIN VAN BUREN] 1835-

Millend, Ipswich, 1635-1640. Historic ground; Mill street located: why so called: Mill street peopled: Dennison's lot: Belcher-Saltonstall deed: Saltonstall and Whipple houses; remarks and remarks.. [Portsmouth, N.H., Perley, 1901]

16p.

P 9542

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Millend, Ipswich, 1635=1640.

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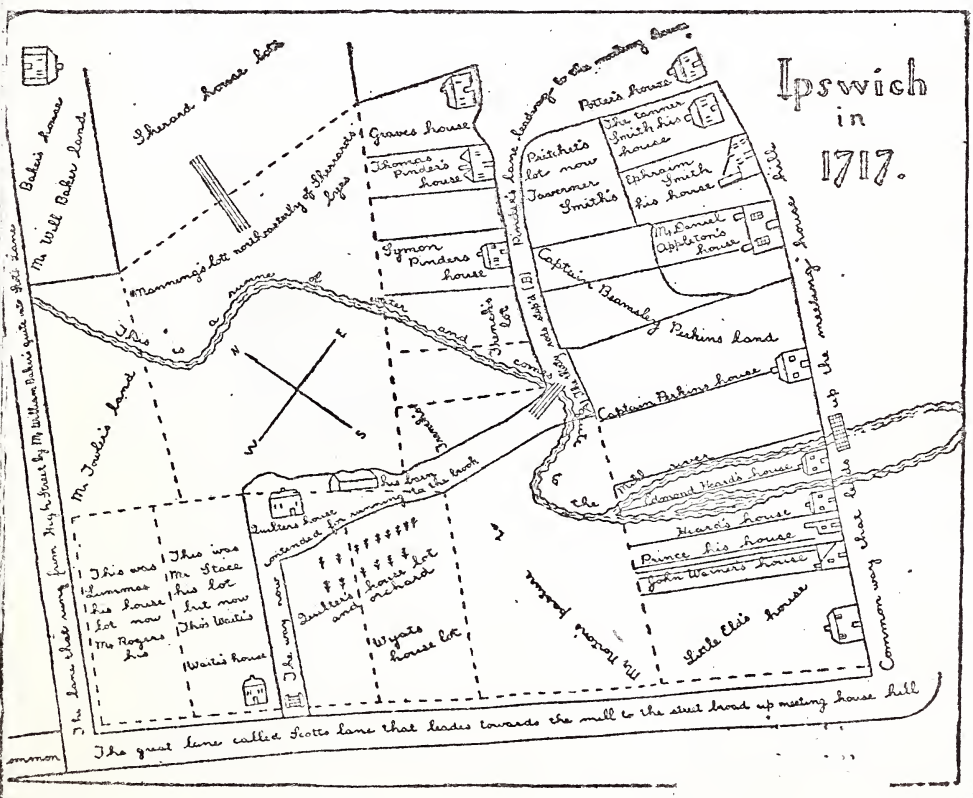


PORTSMOUTH, N. H.:
PUBLISHED BY M. V. B. PERLEY,
1901.

Other Publications by the same Author:

Author of

Ipswich History in Essex County History. pp. 2130. Set for sale.
History of Topsfield Academy. 8vo,, price 75 cts.
History Sketch of Linebrook Parish. Price 10 cts.

Editor, with J. W. Nourse, C. E., *of*

Inscriptions of High-street Cemetery. Soon in press.

Proprietor of

Ipswich Directory. Triennial, or as business demands.

Publisher of

History of Perley Family. 8vo, pp. 500 to 600, soon in press.
Essex Co. Hist. and Geneal. Register. Vol. I. 333 pp. $2.25. Subject to advance. Few copies left.
Pictorial Ipswich. A beautiful souvenir of the town. 8vo. 95 illustrations. Price 75 cts.
Scriptoprint. No. 13531, Ipswich Public Library.

MILLEND HISTORIC.

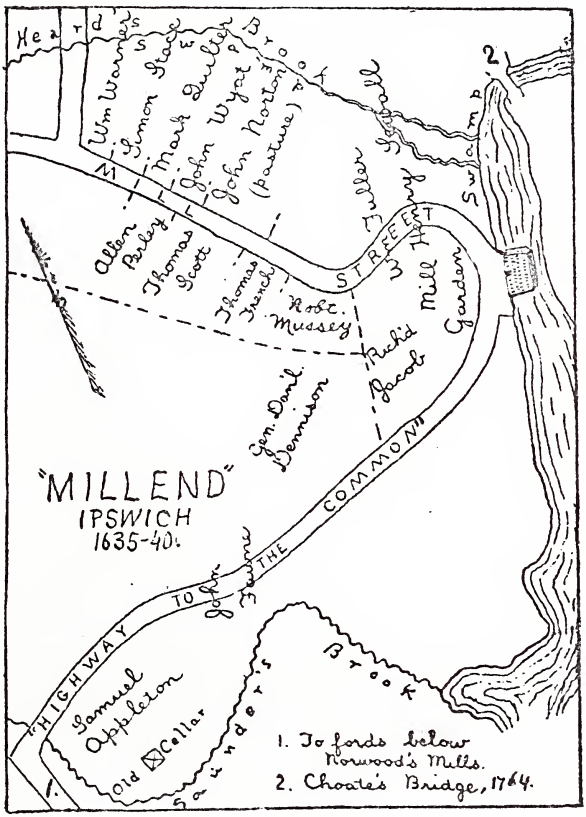
MILLEND was located about the Saltonstall Mill. The ground has become historic. There planted the first Appleton, a name that has been among the foremost in military art, learning and business, during the centuries; there was Whipple, a name having many military titles and of martial prowess and service; there was the castle of Dennison, a man who enjoyed the highest military rank in the colony and who taught the town's young men in the science of martial defense; there lived Saltonstall, a scion of knighthood, the first abolitionist, a name luminous, down the years, with eloquence and patriotism; there the river was first dammed for grist and saw mills; there was planned the first resistance to tyrannical taxation; there lived Sewall who did business in ships; and there is the Ipswich Historical Society's home, a house redolent with age, problematic in its history, and interesting in its composite architecture.

MILL STREET LOCATED.

The location of Mill street is not a difficult task, when assisted by a map of the town-center, made in 1717. The map was prepared by those who felt aggrieved by the denial of a right of way, and was then of sufficient accuracy to be used in court when the case of the right of way was tried. The original map was found in the Essex County court-archives, at Salem.

In locating the map, the reader will note that the Quilter house stood where now (1901) stands Burke's shoe-findings factory. The Quilter cellar was filled, when the ground was prepared for that building in July 1893. Waite's house stood not far from the present house back of Brown's grist-mill, and Scott's Lane has become Washington Street. Baker's house was the old house that stood on High Street at the corner of Mineral, and was razed in 1849. "The lane that runs from High Street by Mr. Wm. Baker's quite into

Scott's Lane" is the present Mineral Street. "Manning's lot," in the middle of the map may include the site of the present Manning school-building. A house-lot, one acre, "lying in the swamp near the Mill Street having one acre of ground of Hugh Sherratt's on the northeast and a highway on the southwest," was granted to Susan Manning, 15 Feb., 1638.



Looking now at the map along Scott's Lane, our Washington Street, we find, in this order, the Houselots of Lumas and Rogers, of Stace and Waite, of Quilter and Wyatt, and the pasture of Norton. Between Waite's and Quilter's is the right of way in question, which is now the right of way from Brown's grist-mill, over the railroad, by Burke's factory,

Messrs. Barton and Williams' marble and granite works, the residences of Messrs. Martin or Amazeen and of Mr. Aaron Wells. The right of way from Central Street to the Baptist church is doubtless a part of that ancient highway, located as at present to accommodate the house-lot of Messrs. Martin or Amazeen, or the lots of both. With these facts in mind, we turn to the town-records, and read as follows:

1637, granted William Warner, "a house-lot, one acre more or less, in the Mill Street, bounded east by another houselot as yet ungranted, northwest by a highway leading from the Mill Street to the High Street, butting upon the Mill Street upon the southwest end, at the north end butting upon a swamp." [Note from this and Miss Manning's grant above the nature of the ground all along the brook there—"a swamp." The sites of Mrs. Josiah Lord's house and many of the houses along Central Street were, in the beginning of the town, only a swamp.]

"1638, granted Marke Quilter a houselot in the Mill Street, one acre, having John Wyatt's houselot east, on the northwest a houselot ungranted, at the south end butting upon the street over against Allan Perleys."

In these two grants to Warner and Quilter, it is noticed that the houselot northwest of the latter's and east of former's, was at that date "ungranted," which fact the following record explains:

1537, "assigned" [not granted] to Goodman Stace a houselot between Goodman Warner's and Goodman Quilter's.

1638, granted John Norton three acres on the lower side of Mill Street [how characteristic is "lower side!" the other side being a hill"] having the said street on the southwest, and the northeast a houselot of Christopher Osgood, on the northwest the houselot of John Wyatt, on the southeast by several houselots of Richard Lumpkin, Robert Crane, and a third lot not yet granted.

Thus by the records the lots are in this order:

Warner, Stace, Quilter, Wyatt, Norton;

by the map:

Rogers, Stace, Quilter, Wyatt, Norton.

The identification is ample and beyond controversy. The Warner lot of 1637 had become Rogers in 1717. The houselots drawn on the map butting on Scott's Lane are the same as those described on the records as butting on Mill

Street; and therefore, the Mill Street of 1635-40 was the Scott's Lane of 1717, and the Washington Street of the present day.

WHY CALLED MILL STREET?

If Mill street was our Washington Street, why did it take that name? Would Mill now be appropriate for our Washington? Is there anything about the latter street to suggest its former name? In 1635-40 the easternmost street was called "East-end"; the westernmost, "West-end"; the highest, High; and the vicinity of the mill, "Mill-end", and yet our Washington, from Mineral down as far as it went, was Mill.

The answer is in the theorem: It was the street, and the only one, that led to the mill, at that early period. The road that led to the west now known as Willowdale Road was called "highway to the common" land, and there was no street corresponding to our Market street. There was doubtless a footpath through the swamp, where now are Russell's, Spiller's, the ancient Peabody house, and the vacant shoe-factories, but there was no street till 1640 or later.

Says the record: "Jan. 11, 1639, Mr. Appleton shall make a sufficient cartbridge over the swamp toward the mill and maintain and repair the same at his own charge for seven years next following, and have added to his six acre lot above the mill one and a half acres, to begin where that begins and end at the brook where that ends."

That the area about the proposed Appleton bridge, and between it and the river, was a swamp no one of the older generation of the present time, acquainted in his youth with the upper portion of the brook, will question for a moment. A gentleman told me he had fished from the guard-rail of the Heard Brook bridge, where now the vacant shoe-shops are.

The Appleton bridge and the road leading to and from it, over the swamp, where now are Spiller's, the Peabody house, and the vacant shoe-factories, was, no doubt, the beginning of our Market street. From the opening of that

bridge and street, the importance of Mill Street began to decline and its name to change.

All roads then led to church and to mill, the two prime factors in Puritan living. The Appleton bridge would be an expeditious connecting of Meetinghouse Green and the mill by opening a way into Mill Street. "The highway to the common" led from the mill direct; there was no road over the hill along the upper part of our Market street; none there was needed.

Along our Market street by the railroad station was a high hill in 1635-40. The elevation of it, where Mrs. Bancroft's residence is, has been very much lowered. There is a deep cut abreast the railroad station and a terraced embankment further on. The surface contour argues the absence of a street there. Our fathers had no time then to cut down the hill for a highway, when a road already skirting the hill, by the frequented mile, served them better. Every traveler that way went to mill.

There are vestiges in the row of elms that guard the road abreast the railroad station, that the fence and wall between the water-tank and Mr. Mayes' boarding-house sometime extended straight to one of those elms; in fact, we understand, that there is a foundation-stone of that wall, or a corner bound, clutched and held by the elm's roots. A street there would have prevented the wall. There was no street.

Again, if we carefully examine the map made in 1717 in the south corner, we can not help noticing that the curve on the south side of Scott's Lane turns toward the northeast, whereas if the street opened into a street coinciding with our Market street over the railroad, that curve would have bent towards the southwest. It is clear, then, from this, there was no street there, in 1717.

Incidentally, it may be remarked, that that curve determines for us the course Mill Street took at that point.

But further, as if anything further were needed, the record reads:

1635, granted William Fuller "a house-lot bought of John Saunders, lying on Mill Street, having Mr. Seawell's houselot on the east and Mr. Saltonstall's garden at the mill on the south."

So we see that following the same law that gave names to other streets and parts of the town at that time, Mill Street was characteristically named. They had to traverse the street to get to the mill; it was the only one leading there.

MILL STREET PEOPLED.

The Quilter grant is said above to have been "over against Allan Perley's," which would make Perley's lot about identical with the Banner lot, now owned by Dea. J. I. Horton.

1639, granted Thomas Scott * * * * houselot in the Mill Street, about three acres, half bought of Richard Haffield, the whole bounded southeast by the houselot of Thomas French, northwest the houselot of Allan Perley.

1635, Robert Mussey was granted a houselot in the Mill Street between Thomas French's and Richard Jacob's.

"1638, granted Richard Jacob * * * * houselot upon the mill street about one acre, a half and eight rods, having a houselot of Robert Mussy on the northwest, the highway to the common bounding it upon the south and southeast."

The proprietors on Mill Street before 1640, were Warner, Stacy, Quilter, Wyatt and Norton on the lower side, and on the upper and south side Perley, Scott, French, Mussey, Jacob, Fuller and Sewall.

In this view, which seems to us to be sustained by the records, the Jacob lot included the ground now owned by the Ipswich Historical Society; Fuller, Sewall and the Mill garden occupied the hill between Union and Market streets, ground that has been mentioned as Gen. Dennison's paled-in houselot.

WHERE WAS GEN. DENNISON'S LOT?

This question is not pertinent to the locating, naming and peopling of Mill Street; but since "Mr. Saltonstall's garden at the mill" has been located on land between the mill and the present Choate Bridge—land which our interpre-

tation of the records denominates a swamp, and since the records, as we understand them, place the mill garden where Gen. Dennison's paled-in lot has been located, it may be slightly obligatory upon us to say where, in our view of the records, the General's lot was.

It is agreed, we presume, that, as the records state, John Fawne's lot of 2½ acres lay at the southwest of Gen. Dennison's paled-in lot of 2 acres, and at the northeast of Samuel Appleton's lot of 8 acres [not *at* or *near*, but] above the mill. That would place the three lots on a line running southwest in this order: Dennison's, Fawne's, Appleton's. But southwest is everywhere within the province of this investigation, and we must look for some more tangible evidence.

In the paragraph above referring to Mr. Appleton's building a bridge "over the swamp toward the mill," we note that Mr. Appleton's grant of 1635 was bounded, on the further side, by a brook, and the record of the original grant reads that "the highway to the common" bounded it on the northwest.

Looking now along "the highway to the common" for those conditions, we find them in the field opposite Mr. Brown's new houses on Willowdale Road, the field contiguous to, and west of, A. H. Peatfield's residence—Saunders' brook on the further side and Willowdale Road on the northwest. Over the old cellar down near the brook may have stood the house of the first Samuel Appleton.

Now if, northeast of the lot we call Appleton's, we place Fawne's 2½ acres including probably A. H. Peatfield's estate and Rev. John C. Kimball's, and then northeast of what we call Fawne's, place Gen. Dennison's 2 acres including probably the Brownes' homesteads and the homestead lately owned by J. Choate Underhill, we are brought to the dividing line back of Scott's, French's and Mussey's as shown on the map.

This view locates Gen. Dennison on a hill (as he has been thought to have been located) away from the dirt and whir of log-sawing and the grinding thunder of whirling mill-stones. The location was quiet, picturesque, and handy to business. Now imagine this lot of 2 acres paled in, the paling running down one side of what is now Mr. Mayes' boarding-house to the elm that clutches the stone referred to above; then run-

ning southwest perhaps by the elms; then on around the lot to the point of beginning, and there is a miniature castle, suggesting the taste and genius of the martial mind that selected and constructed it. Dennison and Jacob were thus contiguous, with a paling between.

REMARKS.

A deed just before 1650, conveying land adjoining the above-mentioned parcels of ground, mentions, in the boundary, "land of Sergt. Jacob," which phrase argues very conclusively that Jacob's lot of 1638 was in the Jacob name at that time, about 1650.

A score of years later, or more, in the light of the records, standing upon the Jacob lot and looking eastward, I observe the mill and the foot-bridge — the many patrons of the former on horseback and with wheels, and of the latter, some turning towards Meetinghouse Green and others hurrying over the hill on my immediate left hand, towards our Washington street, making a well-worn path or highway; I observe, in the light of my own experience in similar cases, the extensive filling-in and grading about the mill and bridge, to make the approaches to them easy; turning northward I realize how handy the gravel of the hillside in front of me was for this purpose and observe the extensive excavation, where gravel had been dug; turning to the westward, I observe, in the light of the records, a portion of the old paling that once separated the Jacob lot from Gen. Dennison's. Then keeping these observations in mind and taking up a deed dated 1672, whereby Belcher conveyed a parcel of ground near unto the mill to Saltonstall, to set a house on for his miller, I read in the description: "Bounded by a fence of pales toward the west, the barn of Jeremy Belcher to the south, down to a rock near the end of the said barn toward the east, and common land, or highway where gravel hath been digged toward the north," and I am persuaded that such identity, if only seeming is very extremely rare;

SALTONSTALL AND WHIPPLE HOUSES.

A pardonable reference may now be made to the name Whipple House as supplanting the traditional, time-honored name of Saltonstall House. I will recall the statements of "Maj. John Whipple, Esq.," who is said to have owned the house and lived in it, and died in 1722; the sworn statements of the appraisers of his estate; and the expert testimony of

The Traditional Saltonstall House.

Rev. T. Frank Waters, pastor of the South Church and president of the Ipswich Historical Society.

THE MAJOR'S WILL. A copy of a "horribly" mutilated copy of the Major's will has appeared in print, but a reasonably correct copy has never been published. I give here such parts of his will as serve the present purpose:

In the name of God, amen. The Thirtieth day of August, 1721, I, John Whipple, of Ipswich, * * * * * * * * give to my daughter Mary Crocker * * * my now dwelling house and homestead with all the buildings upon the same, also all the furniture both of the parlor and parlor-chamber, all the utensils of the kitchen and leanto, also my neb oxen and all my utensils for husbandry, also one old common right and my negro-man and two cows.

I give to my son-in-law Benj. Crocker my rapier and fowling-piece.

I give to my grandson John Brown fifty pounds and my carbine.

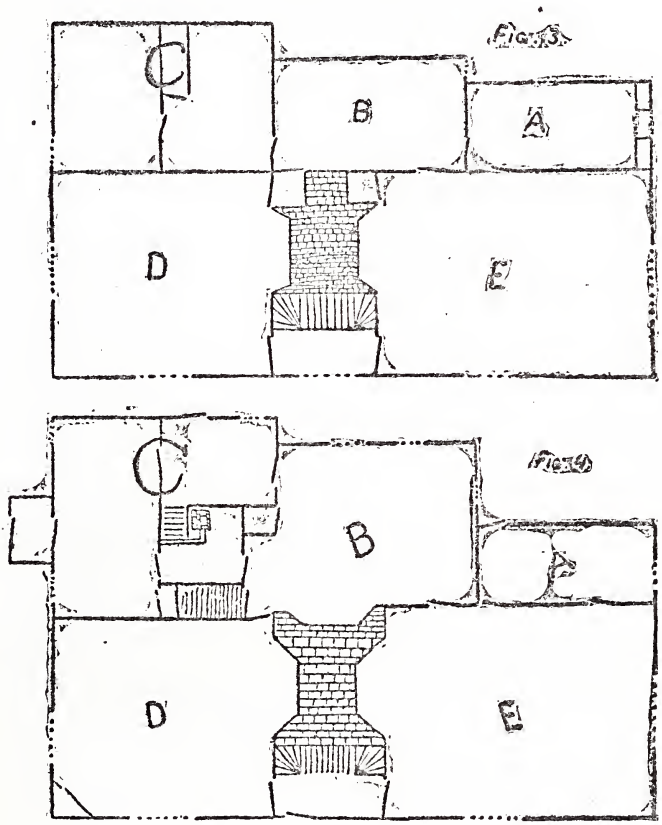
I give to my grandson Wm. Brown my pistols and holsters.

I give to my granddaughter Martha Brown forty pounds.

I give to my daughter Rogers my negro woman Hannah.

I give to my grandson John Rogers twenty pounds.

The residue and remainder of the estate was to be equally divided between his daughters Martha, Mary and Susannah, and their husbands were the executors.



Plan of Rooms in Saltonstall House, Below and Above.

INVENTORY OF MAJ. JOHN WHIPPLE'S ESTATE. A pitiful epitome of the inventory of his estate has been printed, but the inventory, as it really is, never. The following is a copy from the probate files :

	£	s.	d.
Wearing apparel,	30		
Books,	4		
Bills and bonds,	182	14	6
1 horse,	10		
1 mare and colt,	2		
1 fat cow,	4		
5 cows @ £3 10s.,	17	10	
2 4-year old stears,	7	10	
1 3-year —— stear,	3	10	
4 2-year old heifers,	7	12	
2 yearling stears,	3	10	
5 calves,	3	17	
Household stuff in the hall :*			
1 clock,	12		
1 pr. andirons,		12	
Tongs and firepan,		4	
7 leather chairs,	2	2	
3 wooden chairs,		8	
2 tables, a glass-case, and joined stool,	1	8	
In the bedroom below :			
2 bedsteads,		10	
2 cupboards,		5	
2 chests,		4	
1 "cloose" stool,		5	
In the chamber :			
1 chest,		8	
2 baskets,		3	
6 old chairs,		6	
1 looking-glass,		4	
In the bedroom above :			
1 bed, bedstead, coverlet and bols.,	3	15	
1 bedstead,		5	
3 chairs and a stool,		8	
2 old chests,		2	
In the kitchen chamber :			
1 bed, bedstead and bedding,	1	10	
1 bed and bedding in the narrow chamber,	1	10	
1 chest,		3	
1 bed, bolster and coverlet,	4	5	
11 prs. sheets,	5	10	

*The Tall Alder of the Abeth fabricated in the Ipswich Chronicle of Sept. 15, 1899, the following:—"Observe in looking over the inventory of Major John Whipple, that nothing appears, either collectively or in detail, under the head of kitchen or dining room furniture. The 'household stuff in ye hall' included all that. Mr. Perley should study the dictionary more."

The doughty echo fabricated? Why, his ambition must equal the desperation of his client.

NOTE.—"Tall Pine of the Merrimac", "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash", tall Alder of the Abeth are forfeits some men have to pay for being great.

	£	s.	d.
6 prs. pillow-beers,	1	16	
26 napkins,	1	6	
8 table cloths,	2		
10 towels,		10	
12 yds. linen cloth,	2		
12 yds. drugett,	2		
12 yds. cotton and linen,	2		
1 suite of yld curtains,		6	
2 blankets, 1 coverlet and 1 rug,	3		
1 basket,		10	
Linen and worsted yarn,	1	18	
Combed wool,		10	
10 lbs. cotton wool,	1	10	
4 doz. bottles,	1		
1 plush saddle,	1	10	
1 old saddle,		6	
12 barrels,	1	4	
2 tubs,		6	
5 swine,	6		
1 calash and tackling,	7		
1 sleigh,		18	
The sum total is	£350	6	8

As witness our hand, 7 Aug., 1822,
Edward Eveleth, Moses Kimball, Edmund Heard.

Added 11 Dec., 1722:

An old saw mill standing on Ipswich River with all the appurtenances belonging to the mill without the privileges of the stream,	£15		
1 yearling heifer, 30*s.*, 1 yearling heifer, 26*s.*,	2	16	

Counting now the rooms mentioned in the will and inventory, I find a parlor, a parlor chamber, a kitchen, a leanto, a hall, a bed-room below, a bed-room above, a chamber, a kitchen chamber. and a narrow chamber—10 in all, without duplication—ten rooms in the Whipple House.

The following is from President Waters' history of his official home, page 26:

"This will of Major Whipple drawn in 1722 contains one item of note in determining the age of different portions of the house. It mentions the 'Kitchen & Leanto'. One addition, at least, had been made prior to this date; but whether it was the very small leanto that seems to have been built first on the northeast corner, or the later and larger addition that provided a new kitchen, we can not determine. I incline to the former hypothesis, as there is mention of only four rooms in the will and inventory."

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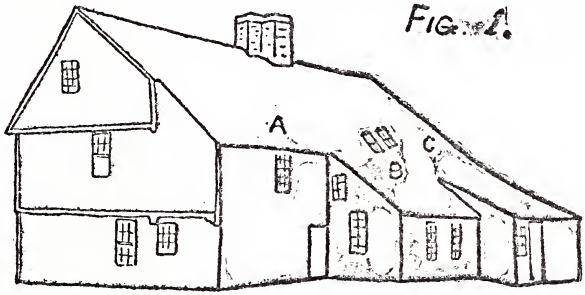
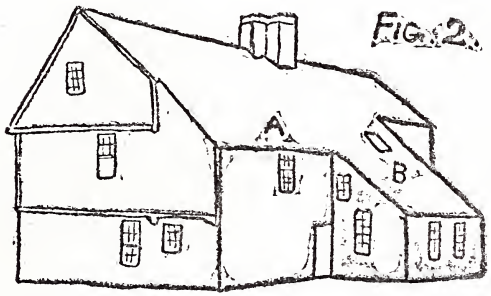
This quotation above has too many errors to have historical value, but the expert opinion of the President concerning his official home serves our purpose here. If I understand the President correctly, his best judgment is, that there was only one addition to the old house, in 1722. He is in doubt if it were the small one "built *first* on the northeast (northwest?) corner, marked A in the several pictures, or the larger and *later* one marked B. He makes no mention of the addition marked C; neither would I; for it is evidently the product of some subsequent year. Now granting, in the light of the President's best opinion, the rooms A *or* B, D and E, Figs. 3 and 4, below and above in his official home, there are six in all, and the question of the identity of the Whipple





Saltonstall House.

house and the Saltonstall House resolves itself into putting the ten rooms of the former into the six of the latter,—which cannot be done, and the identity fails. Again, changing the little word "or" above to *and*, his official home is like "Fig. 2," and the question of identity resolves itself into putting the ten rooms of the former into the (rooms A, B, C and D)

eight rooms of the latter,—which still cannot be done and still the identity fails. Thus it appears that neither the land nor the house belonged to the Whipples during the earlier years.

I apprehend what may now be said upon this question, but what may be said can have no effect upon the question in its present status. All I have ever claimed in relation to the question is, that the identity of the two houses has not been proved beyond a reasonable doubt. That I now claim.

I wonder if it has ever occurred to another that the historical house is a product of two houses abutted together.

There are remarks and remarks that might be made on this phase of the question; but when the record-mooring is severed, one can hardly tell "where he is at." For instance, it can be said that Warner's lot above-mentioned passed to Lummas, afterward to Rogers, but the writer can not say that Warner sold it, much less can he say that Warner sold it to Lummas; for Warner may have given it up or returned it to the town. Fawne might have relinquished his lot; a committee of the town afterward deeding it to Whipple, who, learning that Fawne once owned it, required of him a quit-claim.

Again, many realties were sold and delivered by witnesses to the transaction; as Jacob to Whipple, which sale was confirmed by deed four months afterwards. Allan Perley bought a lot of land by witness, and some time afterwards was obliged to go into court to prove his title; he proved it by those witnesses.

There were, too, divisions of lots that were never recorded which have become a source of great perplexity to the careful record-reader.

Probably half the transactions in real estate at that time were never entered upon the records. It is unsatisfying to theorize, for no one can tell how soon a record may be discovered that will neutralize or destroy the most pleasing theory. So as regards the ownership of the Ipswich historical house by Mr. Saltonstall, there is theory against theory; but one is consonant with tradition, seemingly supported by the records, and rational withal, and that is ours.

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